SECOND REGULAR SESSION SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 718

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Local Government, February 7, 2008, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

3497S.02C TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal sections 135.967 and 620.1881, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to certain programs administered by the department of economic development.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 135.967 and 620.1881, RSMo, are repealed and two

- 2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 135.967 and
- 3 620.1881, to read as follows:

135.967. 1. A taxpayer who establishes a new business facility may, upon

- 2 approval by the department, be allowed a credit, each tax year for up to ten tax
- 3 years, in an amount determined as set forth in this section, against the tax
- 4 imposed by chapter 143, RSMo, excluding withholding tax imposed by sections
- 5 143.191 to 143.265, RSMo. No taxpayer shall receive multiple ten-year periods
- 6 for subsequent expansions at the same facility.
- 7 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any taxpayer who
- 8 establishes a new business facility in an enhanced enterprise zone and is awarded
- 9 state tax credits under this section may not also receive tax credits under sections
- 10 135.100 to 135.150, sections 135.200 to 135.268, or section 135.535.
- 11 3. No credit shall be issued pursuant to this section unless:
- 12 (1) The number of new business facility employees engaged or maintained
- 13 in employment at the new business facility for the taxable year for which the
- 14 credit is claimed equals or exceeds two; and
- 15 (2) The new business facility investment for the taxable year for which the
- 16 credit is claimed equals or exceeds one hundred thousand dollars.

- 4. The annual amount of credits allowed for an approved enhanced business enterprise shall be the lesser of:
- 19 (1) The annual amount authorized by the department for the enhanced
- 20 business enterprise, which shall be limited to the projected state economic
- 21 benefit, as determined by the department; or
- 22 (2) The sum calculated based upon the following:
- 23 (a) A credit of four hundred dollars for each new business facility 24 employee employed within an enhanced enterprise zone;
- 25 (b) An additional credit of four hundred dollars for each new business 26 facility employee who is a resident of an enhanced enterprise zone;
- (c) An additional credit of four hundred dollars for each new business facility employee who is paid by the enhanced business enterprise a wage that exceeds the average wage paid within the county in which the facility is located, as determined by the department; and
- 31 (d) A credit equal to two percent of new business facility investment 32 within an enhanced enterprise zone.
- 5. Prior to January 1, 2007, in no event shall the department authorize more than four million dollars annually to be issued for all enhanced business enterprises. After December 31, 2006, in no event shall the department authorize more than [fourteen] twenty-four million dollars annually to be issued for all enhanced business enterprises.
- 38 6. If a facility, which does not constitute a new business facility, is 39 expanded by the taxpayer, the expansion shall be considered eligible for the credit 40 allowed by this section if:
- (1) The taxpayer's new business facility investment in the expansion during the tax period in which the credits allowed in this section are claimed exceeds one hundred thousand dollars and if the number of new business facility employees engaged or maintained in employment at the expansion facility for the taxable year for which credit is claimed equals or exceeds two, and the total number of employees at the facility after the expansion is at least two greater than the total number of employees before the expansion; and
- 48 (2) The taxpayer's investment in the expansion and in the original facility 49 prior to expansion shall be determined in the manner provided in subdivision (14) 50 of section 135.950.
- 7. The number of new business facility employees during any taxable year
 shall be determined by dividing by twelve the sum of the number of individuals

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53 employed on the last business day of each month of such taxable year. If the new 54 business facility is in operation for less than the entire taxable year, the number of new business facility employees shall be determined by dividing the sum of the 55 56 number of individuals employed on the last business day of each full calendar month during the portion of such taxable year during which the new business 57 58 facility was in operation by the number of full calendar months during such 59 period. For the purpose of computing the credit allowed by this section in the 60 case of a facility which qualifies as a new business facility under subsection 6 of 61 this section, and in the case of a new business facility which satisfies the requirements of paragraph (c) of subdivision (14) of section 135.950, or 62subdivision (22) of section 135.950, the number of new business facility employees 63 at such facility shall be reduced by the average number of individuals employed, 64 computed as provided in this subsection, at the facility during the taxable year 65 immediately preceding the taxable year in which such expansion, acquisition, or 66 replacement occurred and shall further be reduced by the number of individuals 67 employed by the taxpayer or related taxpayer that was subsequently transferred 68 to the new business facility from another Missouri facility and for which credits 69 authorized in this section are not being earned, whether such credits are earned 70 because of an expansion, acquisition, relocation, or the establishment of a new 71 facility. 72

- 8. In the case where a new business facility employee who is a resident of an enhanced enterprise zone for less than a twelve-month period is employed for less than a twelve-month period, the credits allowed by paragraph (b) of subdivision (2) of subsection 4 of this section shall be determined by multiplying four hundred dollars by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of calendar days during the taxpayer's tax year for which such credits are claimed, in which the employee was a resident of an enhanced enterprise zone, and the denominator of which is three hundred sixty-five.
- 9. For the purpose of computing the credit allowed by this section in the case of a facility which qualifies as a new business facility pursuant to subsection 6 of this section, and in the case of a new business facility which satisfies the requirements of paragraph (c) of subdivision (14) of section 135.950 or subdivision (22) of section 135.950, the amount of the taxpayer's new business facility investment in such facility shall be reduced by the average amount, computed as provided in subdivision (14) of section 135.950 for new business facility investment, of the investment of the taxpayer, or related taxpayer immediately

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preceding such expansion or replacement or at the 89 time 90 acquisition. Furthermore, the amount of the taxpayer's new business facility investment shall also be reduced by the amount of investment employed by the 91 92taxpayer or related taxpayer which was subsequently transferred to the new business facility from another Missouri facility and for which credits authorized 93 94 in this section are not being earned, whether such credits are earned because of an expansion, acquisition, relocation, or the establishment of a new facility. 95

- 10. For a taxpayer with flow-through tax treatment to its members, partners, or shareholders, the credit shall be allowed to members, partners, or shareholders in proportion to their share of ownership on the last day of the taxpayer's tax period.
- 11. Credits may not be carried forward but shall be claimed for the taxable year during which commencement of commercial operations occurs at such new business facility, and for each of the nine succeeding taxable years for which the credit is issued.
- 104 12. Certificates of tax credit authorized by this section may be 105 transferred, sold, or assigned by filing a notarized endorsement thereof with the department that names the transferee, the amount of tax credit transferred, and 106 the value received for the credit, as well as any other information reasonably 107 108 requested by the department. The sale price cannot be less than seventy-five 109 percent of the par value of such credits.
 - 13. The director of revenue shall issue a refund to the taxpayer to the extent that the amount of credits allowed in this section exceeds the amount of the taxpayer's income tax.
- 14. Prior to the issuance of tax credits, the department shall verify through the department of revenue, or any other state department, that the tax credit applicant does not owe any delinquent income, sales, or use tax or interest or penalties on such taxes, or any delinquent fees or assessments levied by any 116 state department and through the department of insurance that the applicant 117does not owe any delinquent insurance taxes. Such delinquency shall not affect 118 the authorization of the application for such tax credits, except that the amount 119 120of credits issued shall be reduced by the applicant's tax delinquency. If the 121department of revenue or the department of insurance, or any other state 122department, concludes that a taxpayer is delinquent after June fifteenth but before July first of any year and the application of tax credits to such delinquency 123 causes a tax deficiency on behalf of the taxpayer to arise, then the taxpayer shall 124

be granted thirty days to satisfy the deficiency in which interest, penalties, and additions to tax shall be tolled. After applying all available credits toward a tax delinquency, the administering agency shall notify the appropriate department, and that department shall update the amount of outstanding delinquent tax owed by the applicant. If any credits remain after satisfying all insurance, income, sales, and use tax delinquencies, the remaining credits shall be issued to the applicant, subject to the restrictions of other provisions of law.

620.1881. 1. The department of economic development shall respond 2 within thirty days to a company who provides a notice of intent with either an 3 approval or a rejection of the notice of intent. The department shall give preference to qualified companies and projects targeted at an area of the state which has recently been classified as a disaster area by the federal 5 government. Failure to respond on behalf of the department of economic 6 development shall result in the notice of intent being deemed an approval for the purposes of this section. A qualified company who is provided an approval for a project shall be allowed a benefit as provided in this program in the amount and 10 duration provided in this section. A qualified company may receive additional periods for subsequent new jobs at the same facility after the full initial period 11 if the minimum thresholds are met as set forth in sections 620.1875 to 12 13 620.1890. There is no limit on the number of periods a qualified company may 14 participate in the program, as long as the minimum thresholds are achieved and 15 the qualified company provides the department with the required reporting and 16 is in proper compliance for this program or other state programs. A qualified 17 company may elect to file a notice of intent to start a new project period concurrent with an existing project period if the minimum thresholds are 18 achieved and the qualified company provides the department with the required 19 20 reporting and is in proper compliance for this program and other state programs; however, the qualified company may not receive any further benefit under the 2122 original approval for jobs created after the date of the new notice of intent, and 23any jobs created before the new notice of intent may not be included as new jobs for the purpose of benefit calculation in relation to the new approval. 24

2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any qualified company that is awarded benefits under this program may not simultaneously receive tax credits or exemptions under sections 135.100 to 135.150, sections 135.200 to 135.286, section 135.535, or sections 135.900 to 135.906, RSMo, at the same project facility. The benefits available to the company under any other

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state programs for which the company is eligible and which utilize withholding tax from the new jobs of the company must first be credited to the other state program before the withholding retention level applicable under the Missouri 3233 quality jobs act will begin to accrue. These other state programs include, but are not limited to, the new jobs training program under sections 178.892 to 178.896, 34 RSMo, the job retention program under sections 178.760 to 178.764, RSMo, the real property tax increment allocation redevelopment act, sections 99.800 to 36 99.865, RSMo, or the Missouri downtown and rural economic stimulus act under sections 99.915 to 99.980, RSMo. If any qualified company also participates in the new jobs training program in sections 178.892 to 178.896, RSMo, the company shall retain no withholding tax, but the department shall issue a refundable tax 41 credit for the full amount of benefit allowed under this subdivision. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credits which may be issued to a qualifying 42company that also participates in the new job training program shall be increased 43 by an amount equivalent to the withholding tax retained by that company under 44 the new jobs training program. However, if the combined benefits of the quality jobs program and the new jobs training program exceed the projected state benefit of the project, as determined by the department of economic development through a cost-benefit analysis, the increase in the maximum tax credits shall be limited to the amount that would not cause the combined benefits to exceed the projected state benefit. Any taxpayer who is awarded benefits under this program who knowingly hires individuals who are not allowed to work legally in the United States shall immediately forfeit such benefits and shall repay the state an amount equal to any state tax credits already redeemed and any withholding taxes already retained.

- 3. The types of projects and the amount of benefits to be provided are:
- (1) Small and expanding business projects: in exchange for the consideration provided by the new tax revenues and other economic stimuli that will be generated by the new jobs created by the program, a qualified company may retain an amount equal to the withholding tax as calculated under subdivision (32) of section 620.1878 from the new jobs that would otherwise be withheld and remitted by the qualified company under the provisions of sections 143.191 to 143.265, RSMo, for a period of three years from the date the required number of new jobs were created if the average wage of the new payroll equals or exceeds the county average wage or for a period of five years from the date the required number of new jobs were created if the average wage of the new payroll

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66 equals or exceeds one hundred twenty percent of the county average wage;

- (2) Technology business projects: in exchange for the consideration provided by the new tax revenues and other economic stimuli that will be generated by the new jobs created by the program, a qualified company may retain an amount equal to a maximum of five percent of new payroll for a period of five years from the date the required number of jobs were created from the withholding tax of the new jobs that would otherwise be withheld and remitted by the qualified company under the provisions of sections 143.191 to 143.265, RSMo, if the average wage of the new payroll equals or exceeds the county average wage. An additional one-half percent of new payroll may be added to the five percent maximum if the average wage of the new payroll in any year exceeds one hundred twenty percent of the county average wage in the county in which the project facility is located, plus an additional one-half percent of new payroll may be added if the average wage of the new payroll in any year exceeds one hundred forty percent of the average wage in the county in which the project facility is located. The department shall issue a refundable tax credit for any difference between the amount of benefit allowed under this subdivision and the amount of withholding tax retained by the company, in the event the withholding tax is not sufficient to provide the entire amount of benefit due to the qualified company under this subdivision. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credits that may be issued to any qualified company for a project or combination of projects is five hundred thousand dollars;
- (3) High impact projects: in exchange for the consideration provided by the new tax revenues and other economic stimuli that will be generated by the new jobs created by the program, a qualified company may retain an amount from the withholding tax of the new jobs that would otherwise be withheld and remitted by the qualified company under the provisions of sections 143.191 to 143.265, RSMo, equal to three percent of new payroll for a period of five years from the date the required number of jobs were created if the average wage of the new payroll equals or exceeds the county average wage of the county in which the project facility is located. The percentage of payroll allowed under this subdivision shall be three and one-half percent of new payroll if the average wage of the new payroll in any year exceeds one hundred twenty percent of the county average wage in the county in which the project facility is located. The percentage of payroll allowed under this subdivision shall be four percent of new payroll if the average wage of the new payroll in any year exceeds one hundred

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102 forty percent of the county average wage in the county in which the project 103 facility is located. An additional one percent of new payroll may be added to these percentages if local incentives equal between ten percent and twenty-four 104 105 percent of the new direct local revenue; an additional two percent of new payroll is added to these percentages if the local incentives equal between twenty-five 106 107 percent and forty-nine percent of the new direct local revenue; or an additional 108 three percent of payroll is added to these percentages if the local incentives equal fifty percent or more of the new direct local revenue. The department shall issue 109 a refundable tax credit for any difference between the amount of benefit allowed 110 under this subdivision and the amount of withholding tax retained by the 111 112 company, in the event the withholding tax is not sufficient to provide the entire amount of benefit due to the qualified company under this subdivision. The 113 calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credits that may be issued to any 114 qualified company for a project or combination of projects is seven hundred fifty 115thousand dollars. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credit that 116 may be issued to any qualified company for a project or combination of projects 117 may be increased up to one million dollars if the number of new jobs will exceed 118 five hundred and if such action is proposed by the department and approved by 119 the quality jobs advisory task force established in section 620.1887; provided, 120 121however, until such time as the initial at-large members of the quality jobs 122advisory task force are appointed, this determination shall be made by the 123director of the department of economic development. In considering such a 124request, the task force shall rely on economic modeling and other information 125 supplied by the department when requesting the increased limit on behalf of the 126 project;

- (4) Job retention projects: a qualified company may receive a tax credit for the retention of jobs in this state, provided the qualified company and the project meets all of the following conditions:
- (a) For each of the twenty-four months preceding the year in which application for the program is made the qualified company must have maintained at least one thousand full-time employees at the employer's site in the state at which the jobs are based, and the average wage of such employees must meet or exceed the county average wage;
- 135 (b) The qualified company retained at the project facility the level of 136 full-time employees that existed in the taxable year immediately preceding the 137 year in which application for the program is made;

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- 138 (c) The qualified company is considered to have a significant statewide 139 effect on the economy, and has been determined to represent a substantial risk 140 of relocation from the state by the quality jobs advisory task force established in 141 section 620.1887; provided, however, until such time as the initial at-large 142 members of the quality jobs advisory task force are appointed, this determination 143 shall be made by the director of the department of economic development;
 - (d) The qualified company in the project facility will cause to be invested a minimum of seventy million dollars in new investment prior to the end of two years or will cause to be invested a minimum of thirty million dollars in new investment prior to the end of two years and maintain an annual payroll of at least seventy million dollars during each of the years for which a credit is claimed; and
 - (e) The local taxing entities shall provide local incentives of at least fifty percent of the new direct local revenues created by the project over a ten-year period.
 - The quality jobs advisory task force may recommend to the department of economic development that appropriate penalties be applied to the company for violating the agreement. The amount of the job retention credit granted may be equal to up to fifty percent of the amount of withholding tax generated by the full-time jobs at the project facility for a period of five years. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credit that may be issued to any qualified company for a job retention project or combination of job retention projects shall be seven hundred fifty thousand dollars per year, but the maximum amount may be increased up to one million dollars if such action is proposed by the department and approved by the quality jobs advisory task force established in section 620.1887; provided, however, until such time as the initial at-large members of the quality jobs advisory task force are appointed, this determination shall be made by the director of the department of economic development. In considering such a request, the task force shall rely on economic modeling and other information supplied by the department when requesting the increased limit on behalf of the job retention project. In no event shall the total amount of all tax credits issued for the entire job retention program under this subdivision exceed three million dollars annually. Notwithstanding the above, no tax credits shall be issued for job retention projects approved by the department after August 30, [2007] **2013**;
 - (5) Small business job retention and flood survivor relief: a qualified

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- 174 company may receive a tax credit under sections 620.1875 to 620.1890 for the 175 retention of jobs and flood survivor relief in this state for each job retained over 176 a three-year period, provided that:
- 177 (a) The qualified company did not receive any state or federal benefits, 178 incentives, or tax relief or abatement in locating its facility in a flood plain;
- 179 (b) The qualified company and related companies have fewer than one 180 hundred employees at the time application for the program is made;
- 181 (c) The average wage of the qualified company's and related companies'
 182 employees must meet or exceed the county average wage;
- 183 (d) All of the qualified company's and related companies' facilities are located in this state;
- (e) The facilities at the primary business site in this state have been directly damaged by floodwater rising above the level of a five hundred year flood at least two years, but fewer than eight years, prior to the time application is made;
- 189 (f) The qualified company made significant efforts to protect the facilities 190 prior to any impending danger from rising floodwaters;
- 191 (g) For each year it receives tax credits under sections 620.1875 to 192 620.1890, the qualified company and related companies retained, at the 193 company's facilities in this state, at least the level of full-time, year-round 194 employees that existed in the taxable year immediately preceding the year in 195 which application for the program is made; and
- (h) In the years it receives tax credits under sections 620.1875 to 620.1890, the company cumulatively invests at least two million dollars in capital improvements in facilities and equipment located at such facilities that are not located within a five hundred year flood plain as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and amended from time to time.
 - The amount of the small business job retention and flood survivor relief credit granted may be equal to up to one hundred percent of the amount of withholding tax generated by the full-time jobs at the project facility for a period of three years. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credit that may be issued to any qualified company for a small business job retention and survivor relief project shall be two hundred fifty thousand dollars per year, but the maximum amount may be increased up to five hundred thousand dollars if such action is proposed by the department and approved by the quality jobs advisory task force established in section 620.1887. In considering such a request, the

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210 task force shall rely on economic modeling and other information supplied by the 211 department when requesting an increase in the limit on behalf of the small business job retention and flood survivor relief project. In no event shall the total 212 213 amount of all tax credits issued for the entire small business job retention and flood survivor relief program under this subdivision exceed five hundred thousand 214215 dollars annually. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision to the 216contrary, no tax credits shall be issued for small business job retention and flood survivor relief projects approved by the department after August 30, 2010. 217

- 4. The qualified company shall provide an annual report of the number of jobs and such other information as may be required by the department to document the basis for the benefits of this program. The department may withhold the approval of any benefits until it is satisfied that proper documentation has been provided, and shall reduce the benefits to reflect any reduction in full-time employees or new payroll. Upon approval by the department, the qualified company may begin the retention of the withholding taxes when it reaches the minimum number of new jobs and the average wage exceeds the county average wage. Tax credits, if any, may be issued upon satisfaction by the department that the qualified company has exceeded the county average wage and the minimum number of new jobs. In such annual report, if the average wage is below the county average wage, the qualified company has not maintained the employee insurance as required, or if the number of new jobs is below the minimum, the qualified company shall not receive tax credits or retain the withholding tax for the balance of the benefit period. In the case of a qualified company that initially filed a notice of intent and received an approval from the department for high impact benefits and the minimum number of new jobs in an annual report is below the minimum for high impact projects, the company shall not receive tax credits for the balance of the benefit period but may continue to retain the withholding taxes if it otherwise meets the requirements of a small and expanding business under this program.
- 5. The maximum calendar year annual tax credits issued for the entire program shall not exceed [forty] sixty million dollars. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the maximum annual tax credits authorized under section 135.535, RSMo, are hereby reduced from ten million dollars to eight million dollars, with the balance of two million dollars transferred to this program. There shall be no limit on the amount of withholding taxes that may be retained by approved companies under this program.

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6. The department shall allocate the annual tax credits based on the date of the approval, reserving such tax credits based on the department's best estimate of new jobs and new payroll of the project, and the other factors in the determination of benefits of this program. However, the annual issuance of tax credits is subject to the annual verification of the actual new payroll. The allocation of tax credits for the period assigned to a project shall expire if, within two years from the date of commencement of operations, or approval if applicable, the minimum thresholds have not been achieved. The qualified company may retain authorized amounts from the withholding tax under this section once the minimum new jobs thresholds are met for the duration of the project period. No benefits shall be provided under this program until the qualified company meets the minimum new jobs thresholds. In the event the qualified company does not meet the minimum new job threshold, the qualified company may submit a new notice of intent or the department may provide a new approval for a new project of the qualified company at the project facility or other facilities.

- 7. For a qualified company with flow-through tax treatment to its members, partners, or shareholders, the tax credit shall be allowed to members, partners, or shareholders in proportion to their share of ownership on the last day of the qualified company's tax period.
- 8. Tax credits may be claimed against taxes otherwise imposed by chapters 143 and 148, RSMo, and may not be carried forward but shall be claimed within one year of the close of the taxable year for which they were issued, except as provided under subdivision (4) of subsection 3 of this section.
- 9. Tax credits authorized by this section may be transferred, sold, or assigned by filing a notarized endorsement thereof with the department that names the transferree, the amount of tax credit transferred, and the value received for the credit, as well as any other information reasonably requested by the department.
- 10. Prior to the issuance of tax credits, the department shall verify through the department of revenue, or any other state department, that the tax credit applicant does not owe any delinquent income, sales, or use tax or interest or penalties on such taxes, or any delinquent fees or assessments levied by any state department and through the department of insurance that the applicant does not owe any delinquent insurance taxes. Such delinquency shall not affect the authorization of the application for such tax credits, except that at issuance credits shall be first applied to the delinquency and any amount issued shall be

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reduced by the applicant's tax delinquency. If the department of revenue or the 282 283 department of insurance, or any other state department, concludes that a taxpayer is delinquent after June fifteenth but before July first of any year and 284 285 the application of tax credits to such delinquency causes a tax deficiency on 286 behalf of the taxpayer to arise, then the taxpayer shall be granted thirty days to 287 satisfy the deficiency in which interest, penalties, and additions to tax shall be 288 tolled. After applying all available credits toward a tax delinquency, the administering agency shall notify the appropriate department and that 289 290 department shall update the amount of outstanding delinquent tax owed by the 291 applicant. If any credits remain after satisfying all insurance, income, sales, and 292 use tax delinquencies, the remaining credits shall be issued to the applicant, 293 subject to the restrictions of other provisions of law.

- 11. Except as provided under subdivision (4) of subsection 3 of this section, the director of revenue shall issue a refund to the qualified company to the extent that the amount of credits allowed in this section exceeds the amount of the qualified company's income tax.
- 298 12. An employee of a qualified company will receive full credit for the amount of tax withheld as provided in section 143.211, RSMo.
 - 13. If any provision of sections 620.1875 to 620.1890 or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of these sections which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, the provisions of sections 620.1875 to 620.1890 are hereby declared severable.



